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BULLETIN OF FOREIGN PLANT INTRODUCTIONS.

March 9 to 16, 1910.

NEW PLANT IMMIGRANTS.

AMYGDALUS PERSICA. 26985-986. Two varieties of wild peach from the Himalayas, India. Presented by J. Mollison, Inspector General of Agriculture in India. "Superior varieties of peaches, apricots and plums are grafted on these trees". (Mollison.) For distribution later.

CHRYSANTHEMUM STIPULACEUM. 26989. Seed of 'Best large mixed' chrysanthemum, purchased from Yokohama Nursery Co., Yokohama, Japan. For distribution later.

CICER ARIETINUM. 26990. From the vicinity of Safed, Palestine. Procured by Mr. Alex Aaronsohn. "Safed is in Upper Galilee at an elevation of 2000 feet above sea-level. Chickpeas are cultivated on very calcareous soil. They are sown at the end of March and harvested the beginning of July. No rain falls during this time, so that the only moisture they receive is that which is stored in the soil. There are three varieties contained in this lot. One, which is considered a botanical variety, has rose colored flowers and brownish seeds and when cooked turns black; it is a very inferior variety. The other two have white flowers, but one has very small seeds and thick skin and requires a long time in cooking; the other is large seeded and is considered better than either of the other two varieties". (Aaron Aaronsohn.)

CITRUS DECUMANA. 26933. From Buitenzorg, Java. Presented by Mr. A. J. Perkins. "This is a very good variety of pomelo with pink flesh and few seeds". (Perkins) For distribution later.

CROTALARIA PUMILA. 26932. From Miami, Fla. Received through Mr. Edward Simmonds. "This is a perennial species of Crotalaria, native of Miami, Fla. The plant has much the habit and appearance of alfalfa, but is inclined to lodge. The foliage is sweet and palatable and the plant is worthy of testing in the extreme south for its forage possibilities". (Piper) For distribution later.

DIOSPYROS KAKI. 26949. Persimmon from Hwai Yuan, via Nanking, China. Presented by Dr. Samuel Cochran. For distribution later.

EUCALYPTUS SPP. 26981-982. Two species of Eucalyptus from Melbourne, Australia, procured for the Forest Service. Presented by Mr. W. R. Guilfoyle.

FAGUS. 26862. From near Gagri, Caucasus, Russia. A tall tree in the forest, having a whitish trunk, like the native American beech. Of value as a shade and timber tree in moist, mild-wintered sections of the United States. (Meyer's Introduction)

GORDONIA PUBESCENS. 26930. From Philadelphia, Pa. Purchased from Miss Elizabeth De Hart. "I think the *Gordonia pubescens* highly ornamental and worth propagating; it flowers when the plants are 2 or 3 years old. The largest tree I have is about 15 feet high; the first flowers open about the beginning of August and there is a succession of them until frost, a new set of flowers coming out each day and the old ones dropping off. This plant has had as many as 900 flowers in one season. The flowers are composed of 5 roundish petals, always 4 perfect and 1 imperfect one, ornamented in the center with a crown of yellow stamens and having the delicate fragrance of a fine orange. The leaves change to a bright crimson in the fall which adds to the richness of the tree". (DeHart) For distribution later. "This tree, though a native American one, is extinct except for a few cultivated plants". (Fairchild)

LANDOLPHIA CAPENSIS. 27014. 'Wild peach' from Pretoria, Transvaal, South Africa. Presented by Prof. J. Burtt-Davy. For distribution later.

MEDICAGO FALCATA. 26927. From Kashmir, British India. Purchased from Mr. Rassul Galwan. "Mr. Galwan states in substance that this species is valuable especially for horses. It is seeded in drills 6 inches apart and covered to a depth of one inch and immediately irrigated. At least 4 years are required for the plants to reach their full maturity. The latitude of Leh is 34°30'N, longitude 37°E." (Westgate.) For distribution later.

MEDICAGO SATIVA. 26911. From Samara Province, Russia. Received from Messrs. Voller & Co. "This seed is of interest owing to the fact that introductions of *Medicago falcata* have been secured from this same region" (Westgate).
MEDICAGO SATIVA. 27026. Alfalfa from Gabes, Tunis. Procured by Mr. Victor Dumas, Sousse, Tunis, from El Habib ben Trab, Amin des vivres, a Menzel, for Mr. J. M. Westgate at the suggestion of Mr. T. H. Kearney.

MEDICAGO SP. 26865. From Novorossisk, Caucasus, Russia. Alfalfas growing on stony and clayey hillsides. The summer is very hot and dry in this region, but the winter is mild and generally very wet. (Meyer's Introduction.)

OLEA EUROPEA. 27027. Wild olive from the foothills of the Amanus Mts., Turkey. Presented by Mr. F. D. Shepard. "These olives were collected on the landward side of the Amanus Mts., where the climate is semi-arid. The olive is more at home on the seaward side of these mountains, where the tree, or shrub, is larger and the fruit nearly twice as large. It does not grow wild on the Kurd Dagh (Kurdish Mts.), the parallel range further inland and still more arid, altho the cultivated olive thrives there". (Shepard.)

PYRUS. 26987. From the Himalayas, India. Presented by Mr. J. Mollison. "On this tree are grafted superior varieties of pears which are known in the Kulu as 'Nakh'. No other fruit can be grafted on it." (Mollison.) For distribution later.

RHUS CORIARIA. 26785. From Portici, Italy. Presented by Prof. L. Savastano. "This is the well-known Sicilian sumac. Its cultivation and the marketing of the dried leaves, which are used as a mordant in dyeing fabrics and in tanning certain types of leather, form an important industry in Sicily and Tuscany. Introduced for testing its possibilities as a cultivated crop." (Stockberger.)

SAGITTARIA. 26983. Procured by Mr. David Fairchild from the Port Arthur Restaurant, Washington, D. C. "The See Koo is grown extensively around Canton, China, on wet land, very much as the dasheens and taros are grown in other parts of the world. It is to be found on the streets sold in baskets and special tubs which are carried around by the vegetable dealers. These specimens were given to me by the manager of the restaurant who informed me that he paid 12 cents a pound for the tubers and that he cut them up and boiled them much as he would potatoes." (Fairchild.) For distribution later.

TERAMNUS. 27006. From San Jose, Costa Rica. Presented by Mr. C. Werckle. "A plant that maintains the fertility of the soil in the cool highlands. It is also a forage plant very much relished by cattle." (Werckle.)

TRIFOLIUM ALEXANDRINUM. 26917. From Tripoli-in-Barbary, North Africa. Procured by Mr. A. E. Saunders, American Consul. "This may be a different strain than the Egyptian." (Fairchild.)

VANGUERIA INFAUSTA. 27016. 'Wild medlar' from Pretoria, Transvaal, South Africa. Presented by Prof. J. Burt-Davy. For distribution later.

VIOLA SP. 26863-64. From near Gagri, Caucasus, Russia. "A violet found growing on semi-shady, rather dry places a few hundred feet above sea-level. Bears small blue flowers which are quite fragrant. This violet may be of value in breeding more drought and heat resistant strains of this favored flower." (Meyer's Introduction.)

VITIS VINIFERA. 27007-010. Four varieties of grapes from Guadalajara, Mexico. Presented by Sr. Louis Barbieri, through Mr. Frederick Chisolm. For distribution later.

XIMENIA CAFFRA. 27015. 'Sour plum' from Pretoria, Transvaal, South Africa. Presented by Prof. J. Burt-Davy. For distribution later.

ZEAMAYS. 26991-27000. Ten varieties of corn from Mexico. Procured by Mr. Wm. W. Canada, American Consul, Veracruz.
 26951-958. Eight varieties of corn from Mexico. Procured by Mr. Samuel E. Magill, American Consul, Guadalajara.
 26950. White seeded corn from the hacienda of Mr. A. E. Graham of Forlon, Tamps., Mexico. Procured by Mr. Clarence A. Miller, American Consul, Matamoros, Mexico.

NOTES FROM FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.

AUSTRALIA, Brisbane. Under Secretary of Agriculture, Feb. 10. Will supply us with grafting wood of *Anona cherimolia* and *A. muricata* in June or July.

CHILE, Temuco. D. S. Bullock, Feb. 12. Sends seeds and specimens of young plants of Quila, the climbing bamboo of that district.

CHINA, Kia-ying chau. Geo. Campbell, Feb. 11. Writes that an agricultural society has been formed there. They have made extensive experiments in afforestation. Offers to collect plants of the district and exchange with this Department.

GERMANY. Dr. S. Soskin, Agricultural Expert of Berlin, is going shortly to West Africa; to Lagos, Togo, Dahomey and Kamerun. He has offered to secure for the Department such things as the relatives of the Citrus fruits, seeds of the oil palm and any other important economic plants desired.

GREECE, Zante. Alfred L. Crow, British Vice Consul. Sends seeds of the various Zante and Cephalonica melon seeds with descriptions of varieties and modes of planting.

JAVA, Buitenzorg. Director of Agriculture. Writes in regard to *Nephelium lappaceum* (ramboetan) and *N. mutabile* (kapoelasan): "The ripe fruits of both species have a bright red color sometimes more or less brown. The leathery peel is covered in the case of *N. lappaceum* with strong hairs and in that of *N. mutabile* with knobs. The peel encloses the very juicy, white and glassy pulp which has a pleasant, bitter-sweet flavor. It is about a quarter of an inch thick

and is often so strongly attached to the wood-like skin of the kernel that it is not readily loosened from it. As a rule the fruits of kapoelasan are a trifle larger than those of ramboetan. There are ten varieties here of the latter and probably four of the former. They are pretty fruits; when the peel is half cut open they look somewhat like French bonbons. There is no doubt that they will draw attention at nice dinners." See photograph.

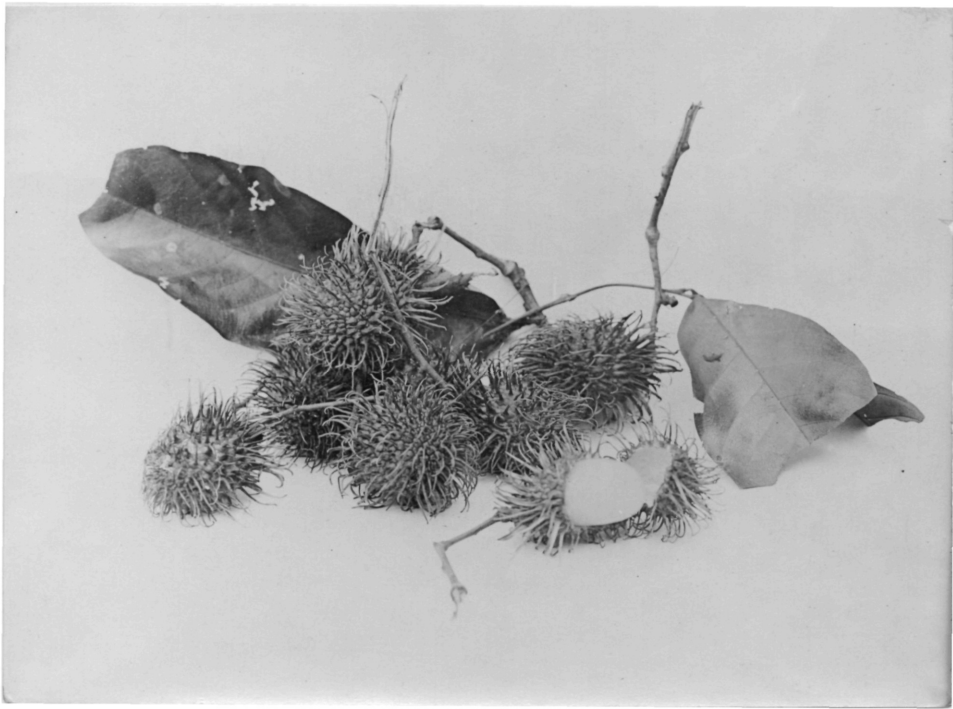
SANTO DOMINGO. Horace G. Knowles, Consul, March 4. Mr. Knowles sends an interesting letter in regard to agricultural conditions there. He thinks the sour orange grown there will prove a valuable product in Florida and California.

RECENT VISITORS.

LONG ISLAND, Manhasset. Mr. Vivian Burnett, Assistant Editor of the Craftsman, delegated by Mr. Stickley, owner and editor of that magazine, to find out whether new plants of an experimental character cannot be utilized in the garden schemes which it is proposed to establish in connection with the Craftsman institutions. Was very much interested in the suggestion that various new plants with possibilities yet undiscovered might be worked out by amateur craftsmen.

As the result of a conference of a number of the offices interested in the systematic work of the Office of Taxonomic Investigations on economic plants, and particularly in the study and identification of those introduced by the Office of Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction, it has been decided that the Plant Inventory may with advantage be made somewhat more botanical in character. It is believed that this series, published quarterly, is a proper medium for the publication of new species and of new binomials, as the necessity for such publication arises in the endeavor to consistently use correct names in the Inventory. With those who send in material of an economic species from regions not well explored botanically, and desire that the species be published in the Inventory in

case it proves to be undescribed, arrangements will be made so that there need be no delay in the numbering of the material and its propagation pending the publication of the description. A list of the new names appearing in each issue of the Inventory will be published at the end of the same. All questions pertaining to taxonomic matters will be under the general supervision of the Office of Taxonomic Investigations, with the cooperation of the Office of Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction.

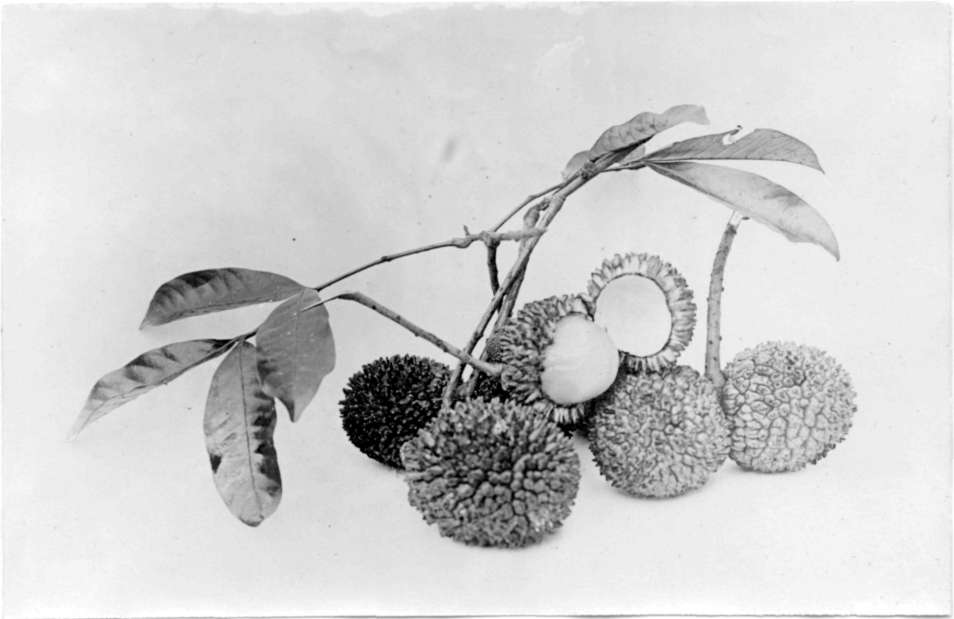


Nephelium lappaceum.

Ramboetan.

The ripe fruit has a bright red color more or less brownish. The leathery peel is covered with stiff, coarse hairs and encloses a white, glossy and juicy pulp, about a quarter of an inch thick.

Plants of *Nephelium lappaceum*, under S. P. I. No. 22384, are available for distribution.



Nephelium mutabile.

Kapoelasan.

The fruits are red; cut half open they somewhat resemble French bonbons. The leathery peel is covered with protuberances, enclosing a white, glossy and juicy pulp.